

Amendments to Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented): A waterborne adhesive comprising an alkenyl succinic anhydride component in an amount effective to improve the set speed of the adhesive.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously presented): The adhesive of claim 1 wherein the alkenyl succinic anhydride component is octenyl succinic anhydride, wherein said octenyl succinic anhydride when added to the adhesive is not part of a crosslinked octenyl succinic anhydride-modified starch.

Claim 4 (original): The adhesive of claim 3 wherein the adhesive has been crosslinked.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The adhesive of claim 1 wherein the alkenyl succinic anhydride component comprises a crosslinked carrier starch containing octenyl succinic anhydride groups.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The adhesive of claim 16 comprising ethylene vinyl acetate.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The adhesive of claim 3 which is a starch based adhesive.

Claim 8 (original): The adhesive of claim 6 further comprising polyvinyl alcohol.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method of increasing the set speed of a waterborne adhesive comprising adding to a waterborne adhesive an alkenyl succinic anhydride component in an amount effective to improve the set speed of the adhesive.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of claim 9 wherein the alkenyl succinic anhydride component is octenyl succinic anhydride, wherein said octenyl succinic anhydride added to the adhesive is not part of a crosslinked octenyl succinic anhydride-modified starch.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising adding a crosslinking agent.

Claim 12 (currently amended). The method of claim 9-10 wherein the alkenyl succinic anhydride component comprises a crosslinked carrier starch containing octenyl succinic anhydride groups.

Claim 13 (original): An article of manufacture comprising the adhesive of claim 5.

Claim 14 (previously presented): An article of manufacture comprising the adhesive of claim 3.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A method for bonding materials together which comprises applying the adhesive composition of claim 1 to a first substrate, bringing a second substrate in contact with the adhesive composition applied to the first substrate, and subjecting the applied composition to conditions which will allow the composition to form a set bond.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The adhesive of claim 3 which is a polymer resin emulsion based adhesive.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method of claim 10 wherein said octenyl succinic anhydride is added to a polymer resin emulsion based adhesive.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 12 wherein said alkenyl succinic anhydride component is added to a polymer resin emulsion based adhesive.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method of claim 15 wherein the alkenyl succinic anhydride component is octenyl succinic anhydride, wherein said octenyl succinic anhydride when added to the adhesive is not part of a crosslinked octenyl succinic anhydride-modified starch.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method of claim 15 wherein the alkenyl succinic anhydride component comprises a crosslinked carrier starch containing octenyl succinic anhydride groups.